

# SUPPORTING THE OBSERVANCE OF BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

SPEECH OF

**HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 29, 2007*

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 230, a resolution supporting the observance of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. This resolution provides a special opportunity to increase awareness on the importance of regular self-examinations, as early detection is the key to increasing survival rates.

This is also an occasion on which we can recognize the more than 2.4 million breast cancer survivors and remember those who are no longer with us on account of this deadly disease. This past October, survivors and activists have reminded us why it is so important to support research throughout the entire year to find a cure for breast cancer.

In this country, this disease strikes 1 woman every 3 minutes, and it is the leading cause of death among women ages 45 to 54. The numbers are staggering—we simply must continue to adequately fund research and ensure that services and treatments are accessible to those who need them.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of those who have fought a courageous battle with breast cancer, I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution.

# TRIBUTE TO MOUNT OLIVE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 30, 2007*

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, Mount Olive African Methodist Episcopal Church of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina will commemorate its 100 years of Christian service at a Centennial Anniversary banquet on November 17, 2007.

Mount Olive AME had a very humble beginning. A small group of faithful African American Christians came together in the Myrtle Beach area in the late 1800s and constructed a one-room structure known as the Bush Shelter. It was in this simple building that this group met to worship under the leadership of Reverend Jackson Hemingway.

In 1907, this group joined with other Christians in the area to organize Mount Olive AME Church. Three years later, a new church was built on the site of the old Myrtle Beach High School Baseball Field. Bishop B.F. Lee led the dedication of the new one-room, wood framed church. Reverend H.B. Salters was the leader of the congregation, and later became a bishop in the AME Church as well. Under his leadership, the church also served as a school for local Black children who attended school only six weeks to five months each year.

After a period of significant growth the church moved to a new location on Carver Street. In 1959, the parishioners' dreams of a new sanctuary were realized.

In 1973, the church was expanded to include an education building. The expanded facility enabled Mount Olive AME to host its first annual conference for the AME churches in the Marion District. This new structure also helped the church grow its education mission. One source of great pride are the church's youth programs, which provide Christian fellowship among young people. The year long programs usually culminate with an annual Christian retreat at Allen University in Columbia, South Carolina.

The church has grown other missions including Sunday School, Women's Missionary Society, Sons of Allen youth leadership mentoring, a media ministry which provides video and audio cassettes to the sick and shut-in, and a street ministry to those needing spiritual guidance.

The church also has outreach programs that serve to better the community as well. Members of Mount Olive AME provide assistance to help community members with their housing needs, utility bills, job referrals, drug counseling, voter registration, parenting skills and the church voluntarily stocks a food pantry. Under the dynamic leadership of Reverend Roger I. Washington since 1998, Mount Olive AME continues to uphold the vision of its founders.

Madam Speaker, I invite you and my colleagues to join me in commending Mount Olive AME Church for a century of faithful service. Its members continue to be beacons of hope in Myrtle Beach. They provide compassion and care for not only its members but also the least among them. I congratulate Mount Olive AME for its rich 100 year history, and I look forward to seeing the good works of the church as it continues to grow and serve the Myrtle Beach community.

# PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 30, 2007*

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, on October 29, 2007, I missed the following rollcall votes because I was attending to other congressional matters in my District: rollcall vote No. 1010, passage of H.R. 3224, the Dam Rehabilitation and Repair Act of 2007; rollcall vote No. 1011, passage of H. Res. 573, Recognizing and commending the efforts of the United States public and advocacy groups to raise awareness about and help end the worsening humanitarian crisis and genocide in Darfur, Sudan; and rollcall vote No. 1012, passage of H. Res. 747, Recognizing the religious and historical significance of the festival of Diwali.

If present, I would have voted "aye" on each measure.

# A TRIBUTE TO REVEREND RANDOLPH THOMPSON ON THE OCCA- SION OF HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

**HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 30, 2007*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, it is with great admiration and respect that I take this time to recognize a dear family friend and one of this Nation's most distinguished citizens, Reverend Randolph Thompson. On October 28, 2007, the Thompson Family will gather at Sammy's Shrimp Box Restaurant in the Bronx, New York for a very fitting occasion—to celebrate Reverend Thompson's 80th Birthday.

Madam, Speaker, I am honored to rise today to share with my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives the accomplishments of this remarkable man. Reverend Thompson was born in Cat Island, Bahamas on October 28, 1927. He received his early education in the Bahamas. In 1948 Reverend Thompson was licensed to preach at Bethel Baptist Church in Nassau, Bahamas. He was ordained in 1953 at Oak City Baptist Church in Method, North Carolina. In 1954 Reverend Thompson received his B.A. Degree from Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina, and in 1957 he received his M.Div Degree from Colgate Rochester Divinity School in Rochester, New York.

As Reverend Thompson traveled about from state to state he remained true to his commitment to be active, productive and dedicated to every facet of his community. He served as Interim Pastor of Pilgrim Baptist Church in St. Paul, Minnesota; Pastor of Victory Baptist Church in the Bronx, New York for 27 years; Director of Baptist Education Center in New York; President of the Nassau Bahamas Association; Chairman of the Committee of the United Missionary Baptist Association in New York; Assistant Dean of Empire State Congress of Christian Education in New York; Instructor of Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention in New York; Pastor of Jackson Chapel First Baptist Church in Wilson, North Carolina; President of NAACP in Wilson, North Carolina; Vice Chairman of the Housing Committee for the Baptist World Alliance in Miami Florida; Parliamentarian for the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Greater Miami; Dean of J.T. Brown Seminar School for Ministers and Missionary Workers in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. He also served as Extension School Instructor at Florida Memorial College in Miami, Florida and Bible Expositor with the Baptist Council of Greater Miami.

Madam Speaker, I first met Reverend Thompson during my teen years when he accepted the call to become Pastor of my home church in Wilson, North Carolina, Jackson Chapel First Missionary Baptist Church. Reverend Thompson brought a new vision and perspective to our Church and made a tremendous difference in our community. My father was the Chairman of our Deacon Board and the two men shared a strong bond of love and friendship. When my father many years later became sick while visiting New York City, it was Reverend and Mrs. Thompson who were there during this time of need.